

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 1, 3, 5; cancels claim 6; leaves claims 2 and 4 unchanged and adds new claims 7-15. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 1-5 and 7-15.

The drawings stand objected to due to informalities noted by the Examiner in paragraph 2 of the Office Action. Filed on even date herewith are Proposed Drawing Corrections so as to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner. Therefore, this objection is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Claims 6 and 3 stand objected to due to informalities noted by the Examiner in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Office Action. Particularly, the Examiner objects to claim 6 under 37 CFR §1.75(c) and objects to an informality in claim 3. As indicated above, claim 6 was canceled. Therefore, this objection is rendered moot with respect to claim 6.

Amendments were made to claim 3 so as to correct the informality noted by the Examiner. Therefore, this objection is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication in paragraph 9 of the Office Action that claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Amendments were made to claim 3 to place it in independent form including all the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, claim 3 is in condition for allowance as indicated by the Examiner.

Claims 1, 2 and 5 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Noiri (U.S. Patent No. 6,272,137); and claim 4 stands rejected under 35 USC

§103(a) as being unpatentable over Noiri in view of Nakao (U.S. Patent No. 6,134,249). These rejections are traversed for the following reasons. Applicants submit that the features of the present invention as recited in claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are not taught or suggested by Noiri or Nakao whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw these rejections.

Amendments were made to the claims in order to more clearly describe features of the present invention. Particularly, amendments were made to the claims so as to more clearly recite that the present invention is directed to a cell creation method and a multiplexing equipment of control line signals for an ATM network having a plurality of multiplexing equipments realizing communication among information terminals. According to the present invention, cells are created from user data to be transmitted from one of the information terminals to another of the information terminals and control line signals indicating control line information input from the one information terminal wherein the control line information is necessary for the another information terminal to receive the user data. Further, according to the present invention, the cells including the user data and the control line signals are transmitted to another information terminal.

The above described features now more clearly recited in the claims makes it easier to incorporate information terminals that communicate in half duplex into an ATM network system by creating cells of the control line signals. The control line signals as recited in the claims are necessary for the other information terminal to receive the user data.

The above described features of the present invention are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record particularly Noiri and Nakao.

Noiri is directed to an ATM transmission system which is constructed without having a dedicated line for transmitting maintenance information between subsystems constituting the ATM transmission system. As taught by Noiri, the ATM transmission system introduces a multi-frame for transmitting ATM cells and transmits maintenance information by inserting it into the overhead portion of a multi-frame. The above described teachings of Noiri do not anticipate or render obvious the features of the present invention. Particularly, the above described features of Noiri do not teach or suggest creating cells from user data to be transmitted from one of the information terminals to another one of the information terminals and control line signals indicating control line information input from the one information terminal wherein the control line information is necessary for the other information terminal to receive the user data as recited in the claims.

Thus, it is quite clear that the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Noiri. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the above described rejection of claims under 35 USC §102(e) based on Noiri is respectfully requested.

The above noted deficiencies of Noiri are not supplied by Nakao. Thus, combining the teachings of Noiri with Nakao still fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims.

Nakao is merely directed to an information transferring system using idle cells. The idle cells as taught by Nakao are used to transfer necessary control information

to the circuit packages through the transmission line. However, this teaching of Nakao does not anticipate nor render obvious the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims. Particularly, these teachings of Nakao do not supply the above noted deficiencies of Noiri.

Thus, combining the teachings of Noiri with Nakao in the manner suggested by the Examiner still fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §103(a) rejection of the claims based on the combination of Noiri and Nakao is respectfully requested.

The remaining references of record have been studied. Applicants submit that they do not supply any of the deficiencies noted above with respect to the references utilized in the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4 and 5.

As indicated above, the present Amendment adds new claims 7-15. New claims 7-15 depend from claim 1 and therefore recite features of the present invention shown above not to be taught or suggested by Noiri or Nakao whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 1-5 and 7-15 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 1-5 and 7-15 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (566.38303X00).

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Carl I. Brundidge
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/jdc
(703) 312-6600



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FIG.8

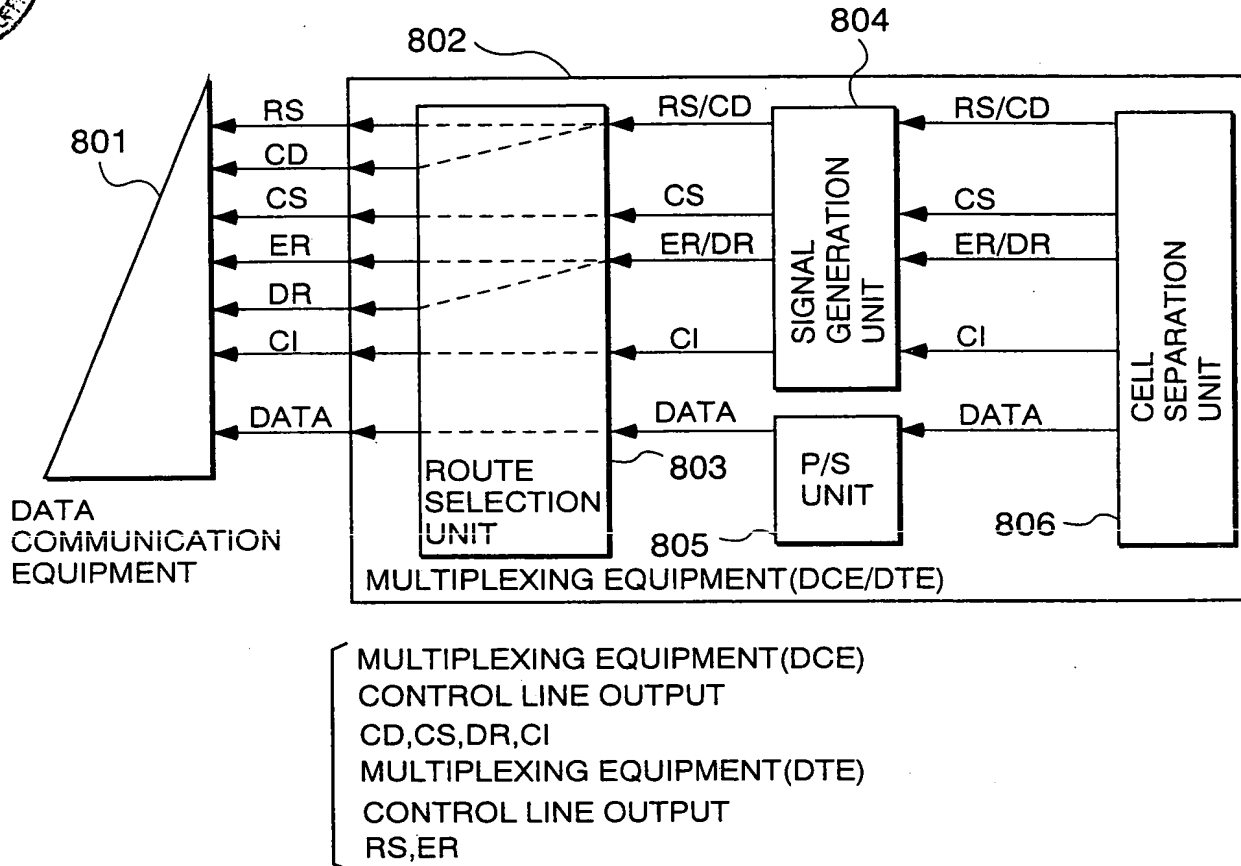


FIG.9

